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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

Jian-Kang ZHU, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1638

SERIAL NO.: 10/749,386

:

FILED: JANUARY 2, 2004

: EXAMINER: BAUM, S. F.

FOR: PROTEINS AND DNA RELATED TO SALT TOLERANCE IN PLANTS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated January 30, 2006, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group V, Claim 36, for further prosecution.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

- Group I: Claims 1-22, and 32-35, drawn to an isolated polynucleotide which encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or variants thereof, vector, host cell, plant cell, transgenic cell, and method of making a transgenic plant comprising said polynucleotide;
- Group II: Claims 23-26 and 28-29, drawn to a process for screening for polynucleotides which encode a protein having Na/H transporter activity comprising hybridization technology or comprising PCR technology;
- Group III: Claim 27, drawn to a method for producing a nucleic acid using a primer;
- Group IV: Claims 30-31, drawn to a method of making a protein;
- Group V: Claim 36, drawn to a method of increasing the salt tolerance of a plant comprising enhancing the expressing of the SOS1 gene in a plant; and